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Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

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Chairman

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Gray Davis
Governor

DATE: September 15, 2003

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE STRATEGIES

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss alternative compliance strategies for complying with ARB's motor vehicle climate change regulations. During the workshop, staff will present background information, receive questions, and welcome public comment for the criteria that should be used to evaluate and approve alternative compliance strategies and how these strategies fit into the regulations ARB is developing to reduce climate change emissions from motor vehicles.

It is estimated that passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks are responsible for about 40 percent of the total climate change emissions in the state. The control and reduction of climate change emissions are critical to slow the effects of global warming, which is a matter of increasing concern for public health and the environment within the state.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1493 (Pavley, Chapter 200, Statutes of 2002) requires ARB to develop and adopt, by January 1, 2005, regulations that achieve the maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction of greenhouse gases emitted by light-duty vehicles. These regulations would apply to vehicles manufactured in the 2009 model year or later. The Board will consider the proposed regulations in the fall of 2004. Additional information on staff's efforts to develop climate change regulations can be found on the ARB climate change web site (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/climatechange>).

Included in AB 1493 is a requirement to "provide flexibility, to the maximum extent feasible ... in the means by which a person subject to the regulations ... may comply with the regulations. That flexibility shall include, but is not limited to, authorization for a person to use alternative methods of compliance with the regulations." Staff welcomes input on the criteria that should be used to evaluate alternative compliance strategies and the guidelines for how these strategies work toward meeting a manufacturer's obligation under ARB's climate change regulations.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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All Interested Parties

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A discussion paper is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/climatechange>. The discussion paper contains background and important content information to help facilitate the discussion at the workshop. Hard copies may be obtained by calling Ms. Lisa Kasper at (916) 327-2932.

Additional information on the workshop, including an agenda, will be posted on the ARB climate change web site (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/climatechange>). This web site will be updated regularly with information pertinent to this workshop. Attendees should check this web site prior to attending to keep updated on substantive information about this workshop.

The workshop will be held at the time and location shown below:

Workshop Date:	Tuesday, October 14, 2003
Time:	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Location:	Cal/EPA Headquarters Coastal Hearing Room, 2 nd Floor 1001 I Street Sacramento, California 95814
Map:	http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm

The workshop venue is accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with hearing or speech impairments can contact us by using our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (916) 324-9531, or (800) 700-8326 for TDD calls from outside the Sacramento area.

If you wish to receive e-mail notification of updates on the workshop and ARB's climate change regulations, please register for our Climate Change list serve at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/cc/cc.htm>.

If you have questions about the workshop or need additional information, please call Ms. Kasper, Air Pollution Specialist, Zero-Emission Vehicle Implementation Section, at (916) 327-2932 or e-mail her at lkasper@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

cc: Ms. Lisa Kasper, Staff
Zero-Emission Vehicle Implementation Section